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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference SP 14070 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/SE00/01290	International filing date (day month year) 19.06.2000	Priority date (day month year) 18.06.1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC7 B60R 21/02, B60R 21/22		
Applicant Autoliv Development AB et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 6 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 04.01.2001	Date of completion of this report 11.09.2001
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/SE Patent- och registreringsverket Box 5055 S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. 08-667 72 88	Authorized officer Hans Nordström/EK Telephone No. 08-782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE00/01290

I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

 the international application as originally filed the description:pages 1, 2, 6-11, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages 3-5, filed with the letter of 29.08.2001 the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, as amended (together with any statement) under article 19

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages 12-14, filed with the letter of 29.08.2001 the drawings:pages 1-3, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

 the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

 the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

 contained in the international application in written form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages _____ the claims, Nos. _____ the drawings, sheet/sig _____5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2 (c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE00/01290

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-14</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-14</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-14</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

DE 19727598 A1 (VOLKSWAGEN), 7 January 1999 (07.01.99) (a)

The claimed invention relates to an air-bag unit adapted to be positioned on the floor pan of a motor vehicle beneath the feet of an occupant of the vehicle. The object of the invention is to realise an air-bag unit in which the risk that the air-bag is damaged is reduced. The solution according to the invention is that the air-bag is contained in a substantially damp-proof housing, having a substantially rigid upper cover. The cover is secured to a base part of the housing. On inflation of the air-bag the cover of the housing is lifted from its initial position to an elevated position and is separated from the base of the housing or is secured to the base part of the housing by means of a deformable side wall.

From document (a) an air-bag arrangement is known which is adapted to be positioned on the floor pan of a motor vehicle in the foot-well to be located beneath the feet of an occupant of the vehicle. The air-bag arrangement is designed as a unit (cf. column 6, line 64 - column 7, line 1) and is provided with a substantially rigid upper cover 2. On inflation of the air-bag the cover is lifted from its initial position to an elevated position. The invention according to claim 1 and 3 differs from here in the sense that the air-bag is contained in a substantially damp-proof housing and that the cover is secured to a base part of the housing. According to claim 1 on inflation of the air-bag the cover is separated from the base of the housing. According to claim 3 the cover is secured to the base part of the housing by means of a deformable side wall.

.../...

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Box V.

Therefore the invention according to the claims is novel. The invention according to the claims is also considered to involve an inventive step and to be industrially applicable.

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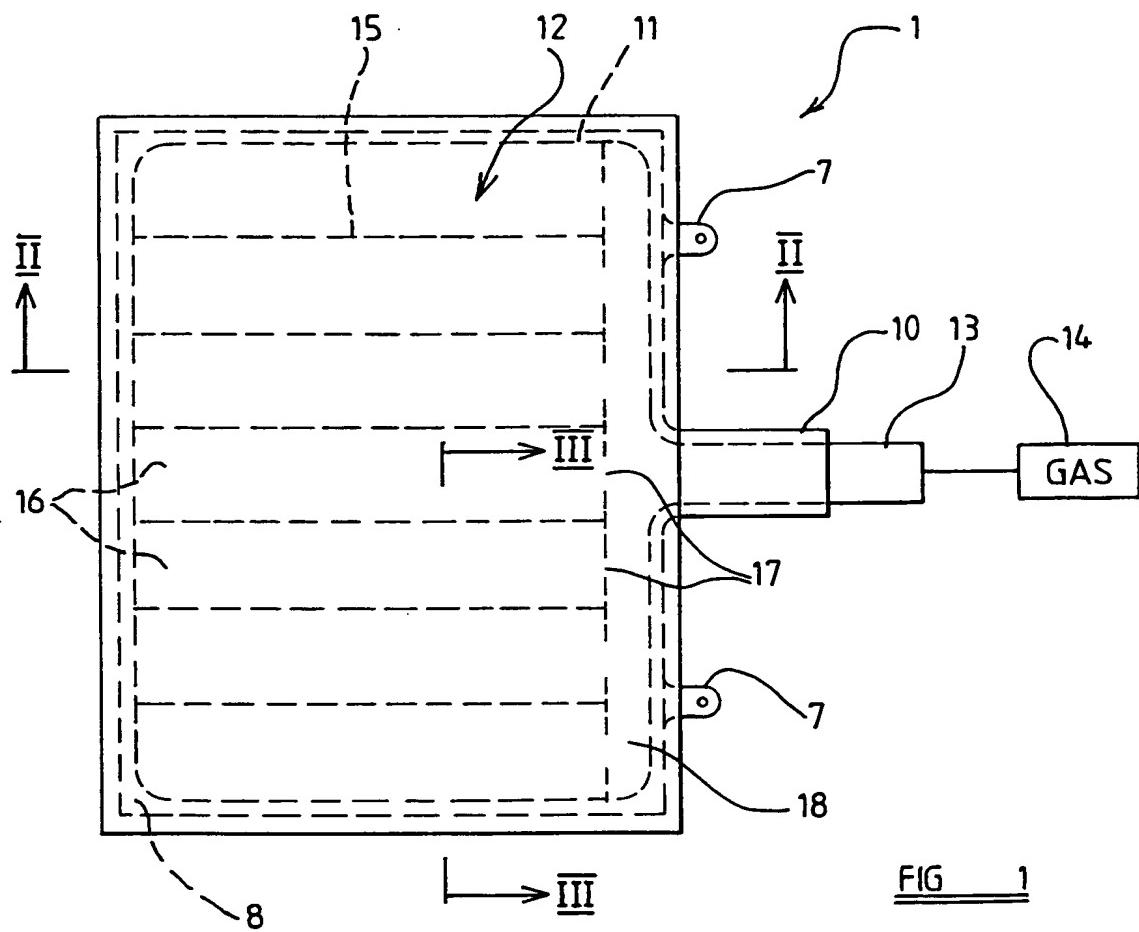


FIG 1

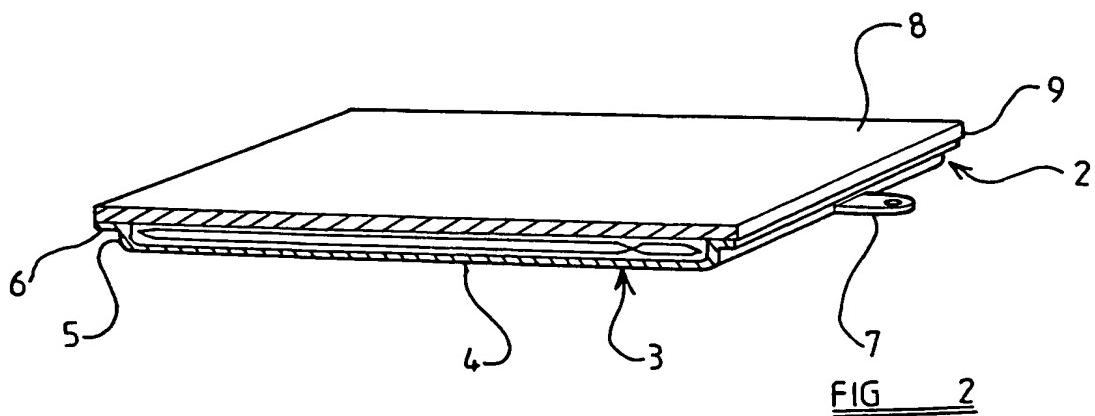


FIG 2

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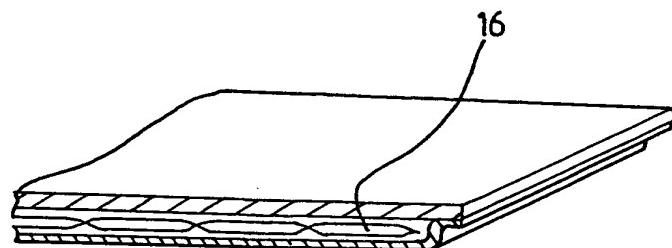


FIG 3

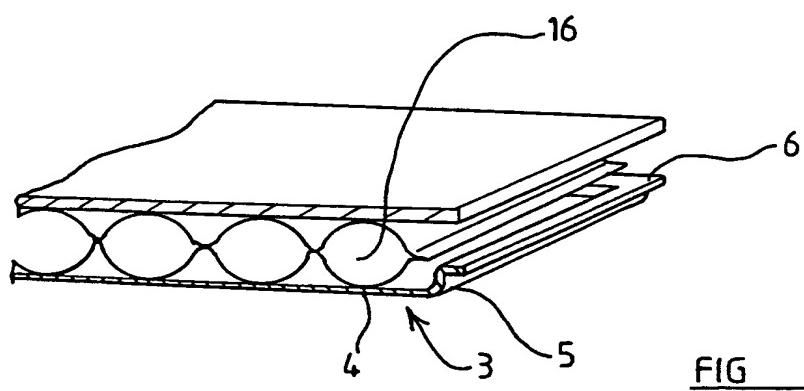


FIG 4

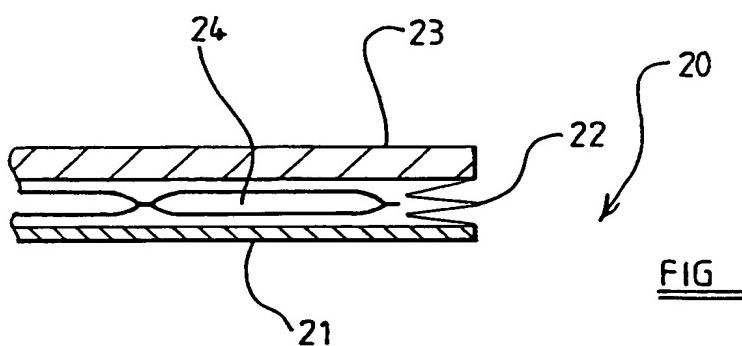


FIG 5

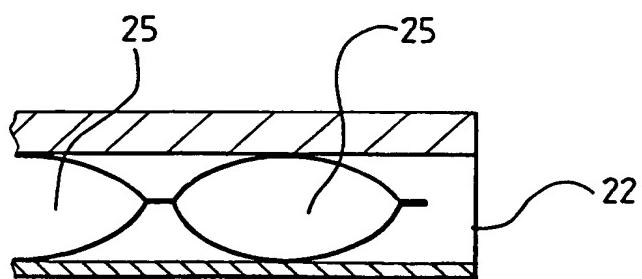
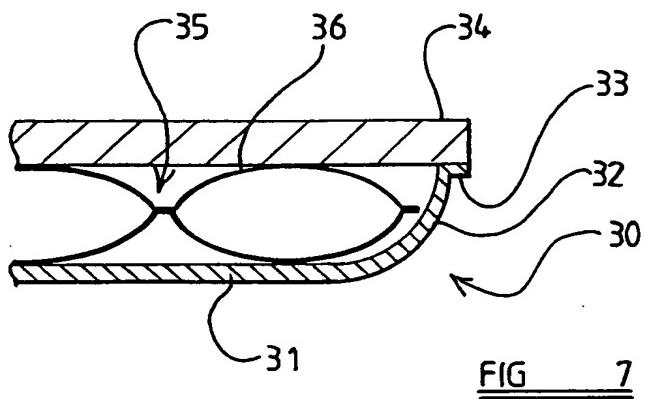
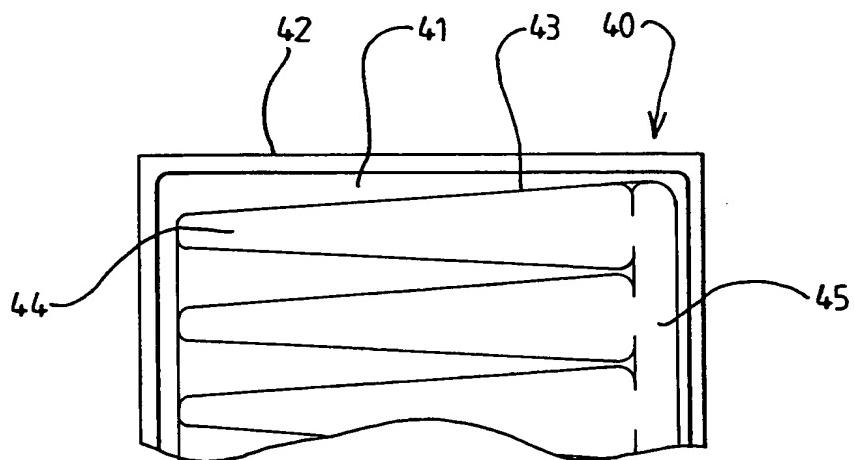


FIG 6

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FIG 7FIG 8